

ABSTRACT

Two-photon or multi-photon chromophores having a conjugated pi-electron system with donating groups at each end of the pi-electron system providing charge-transfer properties, and having quaternary amine groups that can enhance the solubility of the chromophore in water. In a particular embodiment, the chromophore is based on a distyrylbenzene core, with donor or acceptor groups attached to the central benzene ring.